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Georgia

# VIEWS

STATE PARK

## YEAR ROUND

**JUNE**  
**NATIONAL**  
**RECREATION**  
**MONTH**  
**NEW**  
**HORIZONS**  
**FOR YOUR**  
**FREE**  
**TIME**



**JUNE**

**1961**

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## RECREATION

## IN GEORGIA

DIRECTOR

CHARLES A. COLLIER

PREPARED AND EDITED BY

BARBARA J. RANKIN -- RECREATION DIRECTOR

## JUNE IS NATIONAL RECREATION MONTH

The leisure revolution in America has gained great emphasis in the fifties through increased mechanization of industry. Actually, today, the American people have more leisure hours than working hours. The National Recreation Association estimates that our leisure time amounts to approximately 45 hours a week as compared to a 40 hour working week.

A sense of responsibility must accompany this new leisure if we are to use it constructively and creatively. Now is the time to think and act positively about this leisure potential.

June has been proclaimed as National Recreation month to emphasize the importance of pursuing leisure time activities that enlighten and refresh us mentally and physically.

The theme for the month is "New Horizons for your Free Time". Let's be thankful of the many activities and facilities in our state parks and find new horizons in ourselves.



## WELCOME TO DANA

The Department of State Parks wishes to welcome Mrs. Dana Everett as recreation director for a two-month period beginning the middle of June to the middle of August.

Mrs. Everett is well qualified, in that she is a graduate from the University of Georgia, and has a degree in education. She has worked for many years in agencies and private camps. She also has experience in the public relations field, having worked for the State Highway Department in the past.

We certainly hope that her stay will be pleasant and that she will have a close feeling toward's our Georgia State Parks.

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## NATIONAL CONFERENCE ON STATE PARKS

Mr. Collier, our director, has been appointed as State Membership Chairman for the National Conference on State Parks. Enclosed with your Park Views this month, you will find a membership brochure. If you are interested in receiving information on this organization, this is the opportunity for you to join another professional group in the field of park administration.

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We are very pleased to hear that one of our state representatives, Mr. Thomas A. Parker, will be the keynote speaker at the semi-annual meeting of the Georgia Committee on Children and Youth. This meeting will be held May 31 at the YMCA, Macon, Georgia. Plans will be made for the future progress of this committee. The annual meeting will be held October 31 to November 1, at the Georgia Center for Continuing Education, Athens, Georgia.

On a recent visit to Indian Springs, it was found that Mr. McIlhenny, the new superintendent, was doing an excellent job and was very interested in his work. Plans are now, to develop a Creek Indian Museum at this park this fall. Work has already started on the repairing of the building and plans will soon be underway for the new camp.

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## RECOMMENDED ACTION

If you think tax-supported exempt recreation agencies should be eligible to receive donations of federal surplus property, write your senators in support of S. 1069 to amend the Federal Property and Administrative Services Act of 1949. Senator Kenneth Keating of New York has reintroduced this bill, which was prepared with the aid of many national agencies, including the National Recreation Association. You should also write the members of the Senate Government Operations Committee to which the bill has been referred. Chairman of the Committee is John L. McClellan.

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## WHAT YOU CAN DO DURING RECREATION MONTH

As you know, National Recreation Month provides you with a vehicle for publicizing your programs and facilities. Through the receptive climate produced by good publicity, you will find it an excellent time to intensify your efforts to create greater community awareness of the true significance of leisure time. You can use the Month to help your community realize that the programs and activities offered by your department or agency are not intended merely to fill time -- they are intended to awaken and sustain eagerness for new experiences and interest.



## PROOF MATCHES

You can buy water proof matches or you can waterproof them yourself by these methods:

1. Dip the heads in clear lacquer or nail polish and put aside to dry.
2. Melt paraffin in a double boiler and dip the heads in the molten wax. Put aside to dry.
3. Dip tips in shellac thinned with denatured alcohol. Lay damp matches on piece of wire mesh or coarse screening and let dry for 24 hours before placing in a container.

## WATERPROOF MATCH BOX

Pastboard match boxes can stand neither crushing nor dampness; so it is prudent to transfer your match supply to a watertight container of tin or plastic for protection. Remember to put matches in these containers head down so if you pick them out with wet fingers you won't spoil them.

Experienced campers also keep an emergency supply in a separate matchsafe just in case something happens to the main supply. You can buy matchsafes made of brass or plastic that will keep a small supply absolutely dry, even when the container is immersed in water. The brass type, which has been on the market for many years, will last a lifetime. Plastic types are obtainable with a compass in the lid, so they can be taken on the trail. Some plastic types float when dropped in water.

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## THE FIRST DAY OF SUMMER

The summer skies are darkly blue  
The days are still and bright,  
and living trails her round of  
gold  
Through the dim halls of night.

Sarah Helen Power Whitman

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## HUMOR

'Are you really content to spend your life walking about the country begging?' a housewife asked a young bum.

'No, lady,' answered the tramp. 'I often wish I had a car.'

The little girl was quivering, 'How many brothers and sisters do you have, Sue?'

'Nine.'

'Goodness, that many children must cost a lot.'

'Oh, no,' answered Sue. 'We don't buy them - we raise them.'

'I thought you were ill yesterday, said the boss to an employee.'

'I was, sir.'

'You didn't look very sick when I saw you at the race track.'

'You should have seen me after the last race, sir.'

When I was in New York, Ralph said, 'I saw a fellow drop his watch from the top of a tall building, then go down on the elevator and rush out into the street to catch it.'

'That sounds impossible,' remarked his listener.

'Well, the watch was slow.'

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PARK

#### REIDSVILLE STATE PARK

Submitted by C. P. Flowers, Supt.

The Ohoopsee District Boy Scout officials held their last business meeting at Reidsville Park with 16 officials attending. Quite a few family reunions and various 'get-togethers' have been staged at our park.

The park has had a general 'face-lifting'. The pool is now a beautiful shade of green, and the filter building and new storage room have been painted light blue.

The pool and concession stand opened Thursday, May 25. Miss Sarah Lynn Rountree and Mrs. Marion Blankinship are looking after ticket and concession sales. Bill Upchurch is serving as life-guard and also a swimming instructor. He is the present coach at Collins High School.

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#### VICTORIA BRYANT STATE PARK

Submitted by F. H. Hill, Supt.

We have had school groups from five counties during the month of May for picnics and cook-outs.

We have had a beautiful park this spring, as the flowers did not get killed by the cold weather this time.

We have the new picnic shelter under construction at the present.

The Dalton Candlewick Corporation will have their barbecue for the employees Saturday, May 27.

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#### NANCY HART STATE PARK

Submitted by Mrs. John Allgood

Picnic shelters have been erected

at Nancy Hart. General cleanup of grounds to begin as soon as possible.

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#### OLD FRIENDS

We just shake hands at meeting  
With many that come nigh,  
We nod the head in greeting  
To many that go by.  
But we welcome through the  
gateway  
Our few old friends and true;  
Then hearts leap up and straight-  
way  
There's open house for you  
Old friends,  
Wide-open house for you

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#### LETTERS

Dear Mr. Collier:

Recently I had the occasion to utilize the Scout Camp at Little Ocmulgee State Park on a Natural History field trip with one of my classes. I should like to take this opportunity to express my satisfaction and appreciation to your Department for providing these facilities, and for the fine assistance and cooperation shown us by Messrs. Willcox and Hinson during our stay there.

Thank you again for the service your staff is providing in helping people utilize and appreciate the natural resources of the State.

Most sincerely,

Ernest E. Provost  
Assistant Professor  
Wildlife Management

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## PHYSICAL FITNESS OF OUR NATION'S YOUTH

Physical fitness of the nation's youth will be a continuing prime concern of the new administration, Joseph Prendergast reports. Mr. Prendergast took part in the February 21 conference called by Abraham Ribicoff, Secretary of Health, Education and Welfare, to help the federal government draft an effective program in this area.

In addressing the conference participants, Secretary Ribicoff said the government and community leaders must begin immediately to provide opportunities for the early development of physical efficiency in youth to help carry them through to productive, creative and responsible lives as adult citizens. He also pointed out that our search for physical excellence goes along hand-in-hand with -- and gives strong support to -- other for young people, including intellectual and emotional growth, good human relationships and spiritual insights.

Questions asked at the conference, Mr. Prendergast feels, are questions which should be considered by every recreation policy maker and administrator. So that Mr. Prendergast can most effectively represent your thinking at future meetings, please let us hear your opinions and solutions to the following queries put forth by Secretary Ribicoff:

In what ways can the federal government strengthen its services and facilities that affect physical fitness of youth?

What can be done to assure more opportunities for healthful competition in athletics for all youngsters?

What are the recreation and space needs of our communities? Our state and national parks?

How can we get enough teachers, recreation leaders, and workers with young people to carry out top quality programs?

What research is available and what more effective?

How can we gain true citizen support for the cost of providing more opportunities for physical fitness for our children?

How can we create a good image of physical fitness for all citizens -- and, in particular, for our youth?

In the total national effort, what should be the role of the President's council of Physical Fitness of Youth? Of the Department of Health, Education and Welfare? Of other departments also vitally concerned with this problem?

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## NATIONAL LIBRARY WEEK

In encouraging wise uses of leisure time, recreation departments and agency heads have worked closely with local libraries throughout the year and during National Recreation Month. April 16-22, National Library Week, can provide additional opportunities for advancing the value of reading as an essential part of daily life.

In planning for the Week, consider using book displays and distributing book lists related to hobbies, sports, the arts, etc. Consult with your local Library for ideas and events which bring your services, people and reading together. You could, at this time, make plans for further development during National Recreation Month.

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PRESIDENT KENNEDY'S MESSAGE FOR NATIONAL RECREATION MONTH

How we Americans spend leisure time has not seemed to have little bearing on the strength of our nation or the worth and prestige of our free society. Yet we certainly cannot continue to thrive as a strong and vigorous free people unless we understand and use creatively one of our greatest resources -- our leisure. I find it particularly encouraging during these times of world tension that the National Recreation Association has chosen the theme 'New Horizons for your Free Time' for the observance of National Recreation Month.

For us today, opportunity for recreation is bounteous and ever-increasing. Perhaps no other nation in the world is more consciously oriented toward recreation, and in no other nation is such a favorable combination of leisure time, income, and mobility coupled with such enormous recreation resources, both existing and potential.

We accept as one of our basic freedoms the right to enjoy our leisure time as we please. We must also accept the responsibility inherent in that freedom; the challenge which free time offers a free people. It is my sincere belief that the moral fibre, mental health, and physical strength of each of us, contributing to the sum total of American greatness, is now and will be derived in large measure from the creative use of our leisure. We have enormous capacity, enormous power in recreation. Let us engage in it wisely, not wastefully.

JOHN F. KENNEDY

## PORT MOUNTAIN STATE PARK

Fort Mountain State Park is situated in the beautiful Blue Ridge Mountains of North Georgia. It is appropriately named Fort Mountain because of the existence there of the ruins of a huge stone fortification, believed to have been constructed by a race of people long since vanished. Many stories have been told about the old fort, and not even those who live in the surrounding countries begin to know all of the fascinating tales about Fort Mountain.

There are some stories that have prevailed through the years. The story which says that Hernando DeSoto's men stopped off at the mountain on their way through the "New World" and quickly built a fort to ward off attacks by the Indians. Some believe the story that white gold miners built the fort for protection from the Indians. Dr. Gilbert Govan, co-author of "The Chattanooga Country," by far has the most interesting story about what happened on the mountain many, many years ago.

In the sixteenth century, some Welshmen left Wales in search of a new home, and were never heard of again. There is a dim but persistent tale among the Cherokee Indians in this country of a strange white race of people who preceded the Cherokee Indians, and whom they drove out. The Indians called the people the "Moon-Eyed People," since it is their claim that they could not see in the daytime. When Captain John Smith came to Virginia with the English settlers, he heard stories about "white" Indians in this region who spoke a language resembling the Welsh dialect. The force resembled the type used in Europe at the time when the Welsh sailed. These "Moon-Eyed" people entered into a treaty with the Indian invaders to the effect that they would depart from those lands. Out in the area of what is now Missouri, historians found traces of what is believed to be white Indians. There is too much guess work in the story, but it makes for interesting story-telling about the fort.

Through the generosity of Mr. Ivan Allen of Atlanta, the State of Georgia came into possession of this beautiful and interesting property. In Mr. Allen's youth he developed a keen desire to own this intriguing mountain top. It was in 1926 that he realized his dream and bought Fort Mountain. He gave the mountain to the State that it might become a public park, and be preserved forever.



